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NEW DAHLIA "PALO ALTO"

BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

1933

Twelfth Annual Catalogue

Ballay Dahlia Gardens

R. D. 1, Box 675 Palo Alto, California

(Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers)

Telephone: Palo Alto 3570

EASTERN REPRESENTATIVE:

Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass. (Charles G. Reed)

DAHLIA SEEDS:

Again we have a limited surplus of Hand-Pollenized Seeds from the very largest and best varieties which we are offering for sale. If we were equipped to plant them all we could not be induced to part with any of them, but 10,000 for our own planting is our limit. This has been a banner year for our dahlia creations everywhere, as reports from the leading shows, trial garden, and Roll of Honor, chronicled in the succeeding pages, clearly show forth. These successes have been a great source of encouragement to us after long years of tedious experimentation. We have some more surprises just around the corner.

Price of Seeds while they last—\$10.00 for 100, net 5.00 " 50"

DAHLIA COLLECTIONS:

We are again offering our Special Dahlia Collections at \$25.00 per dozen and \$10.00 per dozen, net. These collections are made up of first class varieties, all different and all tagged with their proper names. The collection is worth from two to three times the amount charged according to catalogue list price. As we have considerably reduced the prices of dahlia roots this year, the value thus secured is greater than ever.

ORDER EARLY—Shipments are made about April 1st unless otherwise specified.

WE GAURANTEE that all roots are sent true to name and in good growing condition.

Prices listed are for field grown root divisions.

REMITTANCE should be made with order unless other arrangements have been made.

FULL DIRECTIONS for the care of your dahlia garden are enclosed with each shipment.

EXPLANATION OF TYPES—according to the new American Dahlia Society classification.

- INFORMAL DECORATIVE (I. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with long, twisted or pointed petals, and often irregular in arrangement.
- FORMAL DECORATIVE (F. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad, flat petals, often rounded at the tips, and regular in arrangement.
- CACTUS (C)—Double flowers, full to the center, with long, narrow, pointed petals, incurved, recurved or straight, but rolled more than half their length.
- SEMI-CACTUS (S. C.)—Double flowers, full to the center, with coarse, twisted petals, usually somewhat incurved, and rolled ordinarily less than half their length.
- PEONY—(P.)—Semi-double flowers showing a bright yellow center, having small twisted petals circling about the center.

Our New Introductions For 1933

- DOMINO—F. D. Deep unshaded maroon. We are very glad to be able to offer this year a very good decorative extremely dark in color that did not fade or burn in the sunshine. It is about a 10-inch dahlia, very formal in type, and compactly built of many rows of broad, flat petals. It will start to bloom early, produce freely all season, and the well-branched stalks of medium height are very straight and strong. To those who are interested in a beautiful and useful new dark dahlia, we can cheerfully recommend this one.....Roots, \$10.00

STRONGHEART—F. D. Amber-gold. Another new dahlia for 1933 with no inperfections. This is one of our favorites of the new ones for this year and truly a gem of a dahlia. Its size is of generous proportions, combined with great beauty of form and color, and it has a long

perfect stem. Cut below gives a good idea of its majestic appearance and fine habits. While coming nearer to the formal type of decorative than any other classification, it is not decidedly formal, as the petals are longer and rather inclined to curve more than is usual with this type, especially in the late season. This variety was also deemed worthy of a place on the 1932 Roll of Honor, and we quote Mr. Hart's statement concerning it. "This dahlia was not exhibited during the season, but I saw it growing and was impressed with its lovely color and fine form." Roots, \$10.00



Other Dahlias of Our Own Creation

- BING—I. D. Deep cherry red with a lighter reverse. A fine, clean, dark red, large and distinctive. Petals are of velvet-like texture, broad and slightly waved. Does not fade. Stem is straight and strong. One of the prettiest and most satisfactory varieties in this coloring. Good for all purposes \$2.00
- CAROLA—F. D. Amber-rose. A positive old rose with an amber tint throughout the flower. This is a very attractive coloring that many visitors admired. The plant is of medium height and is well covered with good flowers early and late. Shape is quite formal, stem upright, general habit excellent \$2.00
- CELESTE—I. D. Lilac pink overlaid with carmine. A very handsome large flower that is attractive especially because of its peculiar shadings of color. The well branched plant produces deep, well built blooms over a long period. There are no faults noticeable to take from the general usefulness of this valuable addition to dahlias of this color range......\$3.50
- CHARLES G. REED—F. D. Purple red. This is the color in plainest words. Exactly petunia red is what an authority on dress materials called it. Has won numerous prizes and is a Roll of Honor dahlia. We have just been informed that it won this year as the Best Bloom in the Show at the National Show in London, England. Also won the same prize at the Dahlia Show in St. Louis, Mo. It is an unusually large variety held upright on a perfect stem. Bush is of rather low growth with the branching habit which makes it ideal for all purposes. The big, broad petals, a deep full center, and the great profusion of bloom, have caused visitors from time to time to exclaim that it was one of the most beautiful dahlias they had ever seen—
 \$3.50
- CONQUISTADOR—S. C. Soft creamy yellow shading to a glowing pink at the base of the petals. The pink coloring is very pronounced and gives to the flower the appearance of being illuminated from within. This is a dahlia built on a massive plan. The plant is extraordinarily tall and the flowers can be cut with 4-foot stems. The bloom is in proportion, being regular, rather coarse petaled, broad and deep. Almost every exhibit at the San Francisco shows this year contained some blooms of Conquistador. Twice this dahlia won the Gold Medal as the Best Dahlia in the Show at San Leandro, "the largest flower show in the west." Roll of Honor \$2.00
- CREOLE—I. D. Deep velvety maroon. Very dark dahlias are always in demand. In Creole we have a large dahlia of deepest coloring, but equally as striking is the very novel formation. The numerous petals are quite long and broad and pointed at the tips with an inclination to roll backward. There is also a slight twirl to each petal which lends a similar effect to the whole flower. Blooms freely on good stems _________\$1.00

- FAIR ELAINE—S. C. Delicate old rose. An extra good variety with long evenly rolled incurved petals. For true beauty it is hard to surpass and the quantity of good flowers produced is the greatest we have seen; not that it is one of those varieties that requires a lot of disbudding, for it is quite the opposite, but the numerous branches, both upper and lower, all produce good flowers until the very end of the season. We have been informed from several sources of the very excellent lasting qualities of this flower when cut. 1929 Roll of Honor dahlia \$2.00

FULL MOON—F. D. Canary yellow. Here is a variety that can truthfully be called a superlative dahlia. The large distinctive blooms, easily measuring 12 inches across, are regularly formed of very broad flat petals that terminate in a perfectly full and artistic center. The thickness and strength of the stems are particular-ly noticeable and the flowers are always upright, never facing the least bit to the side. We have never seen a variety more consistent, every flower being massive in size and perfectly formed, and the foliage is always clean and bright. Last year this dahlia made a good start in the East, winning the Gold Medal of



- FURY—F. D. Rose and copper with a reverse of deep rose. This is a huge dahlia of rather odd but pleasing color. First flowers will measure 11 or 12 inches in diameter and the size is well maintained through the whole season. The plant of medium height is a good producer and every flower counts as the centers are always closed and the stems satisfactory. Fine for garden decoration and for use in a collection of large dahlias _______\$5.00

- JOVE—F. D. Bronze pink. Pink or salmon is the predominant color with the bronze coloring somewhat accented toward the center. The flower is quite large, having won in years past as the largest and best dahlia in such shows as Santa Monica, San Jose and Alameda. The stem is strong and straight, and it is quite as impressive as a garden variety as it is in the show room _________\$1.00
- MONTALVO—I. D. Golden bronze shading to a deep bronze center. Size seems to characterize most of our recent introductions, but not at the expense of beauty. We have been asked repeatedly for extremely large ones and we have been able to supply them with a vengeance. Montalvo is another 12 inch dahlia when grown with ordinarily good care and it has proportionate depth and strength of stem. There is great beauty in the coloring as you can imagine, and when you have charm in color, combined with great size, perfect formation and the best growing habits, the variety may be defined as an up-to-the-minute dahlia............\$7.50

- PEKIN—F. D. Deep cerise rose. The color of this dahlia somewhat reminds one of that oriental shade sometimes called Chinese pink. The many petals of the large flower are quite regularly placed but are somewhat quilled toward the center, so that the general effect is not severely formal. Long, strong stems hold the flowers up well. The growth of the plant is vigorous and healthy \$5.00
- RAJAH—S. C. Golden orange with a gold reverse. Decidedly in the cactus class, the nicely incurved petals being rolled almost their entire length. In addition, the centers and stems are always good, and there is no waste through imperfect flowers. Plant is of medium height and is very floriferous. If carefully disbudded the blooms can be grown to exhibition size. Excellent for cutting _________\$1.00
- RAPIDAN—F. D. Golden bronze. A huge symmetrical flower borne upright on an extra long thick stem. A dozen perfect blooms can be cut from the plant at one time and little disbudding is required. These features combined with the lively coloring, which is exactly what the florists want, has made Rapidan invaluable as a commercial variety. A leading San Francisco florist took every bloom we could supply and said there was no worry about them keeping fresh. It might be called a cut-and-come-again variety, as crop after crop of choice blooms succeeded each other through the whole season. Not spectacular but absolutely reliable and ornamental \$5.00
- RED LION—I. D. Bright red. Another large dahlia that serves the florists' purpose well. A vivid red is always desirable when it has all the good qualities which this dahlia possesses. Quantities of first-class blooms loaded the bushes until the very end which never fade or burn. Stems hold the flowers just right whether desired for garden display or for the house. The bloom is oval shaped with broad heavy petals continuing well to the small pointed center
- SATAN—S. C. Flaming red with a slight touch of gold at the center. The exquisite coloring is at once fascinating, but what formation and stems. The horn-like petals, so perfectly rolled and incurved, give rare form and character to a flower of unusual brilliancy. The rugged, almost leafless, stems give the impression of being nearly as thick at the top as at the base. No dahlia in existence, we believe, is more sensational and spectacular than this giant cactus. Wherever exhibited it becomes the general favorite. At both San Francisco Shows this year it was awarded a Gold Medal as the best flower in the Show. At New York it won as best semi-cactus and was runner up for largest dahlia. Was largest dahlia in the show at Portland, Ore. Won an Achievement Medal as best flower exhibited at Rockville Center, N. Y., one of the finest dahlia shows in the East. Was also best or largest at a number of other



shows in different parts of the country. At Storrs official trial gardens it scored 87, a very good rating at Storrs. It has been grown with a diameter over 13 inches. remarkable for a cactus dahlia. The flower in the accompanying photograph was 12½ inches in diameter and over 6½ inches in depth. In 1931 it appeared on both the Eastern and the Western American Home Rolls of Honor with finest recommendations. Mr. Derrill Hart, commenting on it stated: "Surely this variety will be a temptation to any dahlia fan and better still he will not give himself cause for regret in yielding to this color sensation, one of the most brilliant we have seen in any dahlia. Only a few dahlias could feel comfortable near this one." Mr. Warwick S. Carpenter says: "Horn-like petals of flaming red blend suggestive shape with color... Those who like to see personality in their flowers should be intrigued with Satan."

- WINONA—F. D. Purplish lavender, or shall we call it amethyst? It is a lively color that some people refer to as a light purple but it is more properly, we think, a deep lavender. The center of the inner petals of the flower were inclined to a lighter shading. Planted in the front row of our garden, as the plant is rather dwarf, Winona certainly proved a valuable advertisement of large up-to-date dahlias for us ________\$1.00

Good Varieties of Other Growers

- CHAUTAUQUA SUNSET—I. D. (Chautauqua) Sunset pink and gold. A 1932 introduction of most beautiful coloring and with good size both as to diameter and depth. Stems and centers are always good. This new dahlia from the East proved itself worthy this year when growing under California conditions \$15.00
- EAGLE ROCK FANTASY—I. D. (Broomall-Success) Clear lavender pink. Here is a 1930 introduction of ideal habit and mammoth size. Winner in several shows as the largest flower exhibited. 12 inch blooms are the rule rather than the exception. The broad tapering petals produce a flower of extraordinary charm and it has all the qualifications necessary to designate it as one of the best dahlias to date. It is, of course, on the Roll of Honor....\$10.00
- EAGLE ROCK PEACH—I. D. (Broomall-Success) Deep rose pink. This dahlia has exceptionally good color, quite unusual in its shade, very much like an old-fashioned pink rose. The large, well-formed flower is supported by a perfect stem. Strong grower and profuse bloomer \$10.00
- EAGLE ROCK SUPERBA—F. D. (Broomall-Success) Soft medium pink, or, according to the originator, light amaranth pink. Another fine dahlia by Mr. Broomall that compares favorably with Eagle Rock Fantasy. The very large flower is rather formal in shape and grows facing you on a strong stem of medium length. This very fine new dahlia doubtless will be very popular when better known \$10.00
- EAGLE ROCK WONDER—S. C. (Broomall-Success) Orange buff shading to gold and salmon. Another massive Broomall variety that responds remarkably to good care. It is one of the most vigorous growers we have seen. It has won as largest and best dahlia in Eastern shows and is another Roll of Honor dahlia. Long strong stems and habitually good foliage make it a worthy garden variety as well as a marvel in the show room.........................\$2.00

- F. W. BUTLER—F. D. (Boston) Gold heavily suffused with deep red. A very large deep flower, the originator describing it as her largest introduction. The plant is of medium height and carries the heavy blooms well. The flower is quite regularly formed with a full solid center \$5.00
- FRAU BRACHT—S. C. (Berger-Danker) Cream. This importation from Germany is not large but makes up for size in beauty of form and color. It made an excellent impression on its first showing in this country two years ago and is bound to be admired wherever seen........\$2.00

- JENNY LIND—I. D. (Redfern) Mallow Pink. This free blooming pink dahlia was very attractive in our garden this season. The bloom is of good size with pleasing formation and an excellent stem. 1931 Roll of Honor \$5.00



FOR DESCRIPTION SEE PAGE 4.

KATHLEEN NORRIS—I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Mallow pink. This is one of the best of the new pink dahlias. Especially desirable because of its exquisite coloring, it also has size, good form, and a long, strong stem. Although originated in the East, this dahlia has been named for a well known and much admired California woman \$2.50
KAWEAH—I. D. (Meussdorfer) Deep cerise with rose shadings. Blooms measuring about 15 inches in diameter have been exhibited by the originator of this dahlia at the San Francisco shows, winning as largest dahlia. A bloom sent by airmail won as largest flower in the Los Angeles show. In addition to immense size it also has splendid form, substance and stem A sensational new dahlia \$15.00
LADY FRANCIS—I. D. (Mawson) Odd old rose with a golden sheen. Large, well formed flowers of an unusual shade. Prize winner \$2.50
MONMOUTH CHAMPION—I. D. (Kemp) Orange-flame. An Eastern novelty of an unusual and beautiful color and with excellent growing habits. Blooms of exhibition size are freely produced and last well when cut \$2.50
MRS. ALFRED B. SEAL—I. D. (Seal) Rich old rose of medium tone. A very fine introduction that is an Achievement Medal winner and a Roll of Honor dahlia. The exquisite blooms are large and deep and carried high on fine stems. Plant is tall and strong
MRS. C. G. REED—F. D. (Garrity) Pure white. This new dahlia of neat appearance and pure coloring is as large as any white decorative we have grown to date. The originator has exhibited this dahlia in excellent form and it already has quite a record
MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE—I. D. (Murphy-Success) Dark red with garnet shadings. A last year's Achievement Medal winner and Roll of Honor dahlia, named in honor of the originator who in his lifetime sent out some very popular dahlias. This new introduction is naturally large with all good qualities and it performed wonderfully for us in its first year on the Pacific Coast. One of the very largest varieties and a special favorite with us \$10.00
NEW GLORY—I. D. (Trostle) Maroon tipped white. This is a very striking dahlia with the petals always tipped. Attracts immediate attention both in the garden and in the show room Flowers are large and good through the whole season. Roll of Honor 1931\$2.00
OMAR KHAYVAM—I. D. (Stout) Reddish orange shading lighter toward the tips of the petals. This much admired dahlia is a strong healthy grower and a producer of massive blooms. Another New Jersey dahlia that is very desirable \$5.00
RUDY VALLEE—S. C. (Broomall-Success) Chrome vellow gradually shading to deep orange. A very large and attractive dahlia that bears considerable resemblance to Siskiyou in everything but color. The full centered flowers stand right up on good straight stems and are freely produced \$5.00
SEAL'S CALIFORNIAN—I. D. (Seal) Bright vellow suffused with rose pink. A large clear colored flower of wax-like appearance. Especially charming at mid-season when the pink shading is most pronounced. The height of the plant is medium and the stems are strong and upright \$1.00
SHAZARAD—I. D. (Newsom) Deep rose pink. This is a gorgeous new variety that has been antly described by the originator as a deep pink Jane Cowl. The flowers will grow to a foot in diameter with good substance and depth and are held on rigid, erect stems. Roll of Honor
SINBAD OF THE SEA—F. D. (Newsom) Orange scarlet. A useful variety that we can best describe as an improved Flaming Meteor. The flowers are consistently well formed and of good size and will prove a valuable addition to any collection \$2.50
THOMAS A. EDISON—F. D. (Dahliadel) Roval purple. This dahlia was personally selected by the late Mr. Edison to bear his name. It has been a consistent prize winner for two years and is very impressive with its rich color and distinctive staghorn petal formation. The bloom grows upright on a stiff stem \$2.00
VALENTINO—F. D. (Boston) Salmon pink shading to cream at the center. A beautiful dahlia with a famous name. The color, the formation, the general habit of growth, are the best and it is useful for cutting \$2.00
W. H. WAITE—S. C. (Boston) Shell pink shading to a cream center. This is a delightful new dahlia that is a winner in the "pink" class. It is a typical semi-cactus with ideal habits. The large flower is most artistic and beautiful. Roll of Honor
WILLIAM HOGAN—F. D. (Success) Garnet red quite heavily tipped with white. We have never seen a flower of small size on this variety, and while it is not as profuse a bloomer as some, each flower seems perfect



FOR DESCRIPTION SEE PAGE 4.

